

(the Church Missionary Society,) while the remaining fifth is borne by such individual parents as are able and willing to spare fifteen shillings a year for the moral and intellectual culture of a child ;” (*Overland Journey, Vol. 1, p. 54.*) However, when it wanted an exclusive license, in 1820, the Company made its first pretence to a missionary spirit: when applying for the renewal of the license in 1838, it again admitted a few ministers of religion, to keep up appearances at home ; and now that the Company is making a third application for a license, the same edifying spectacle of religious zeal is again exhibited, Sir George Simpson having astonished the Committee the other day, by his list of missionaries recently sent out, or on their way. It has been stated in evidence before the Committee, that the Church Missionary Society has expended upwards of £50,000 on the civilization of the Indians of Hudson’s Bay, to which the Company did not contribute a farthing. This is the sort of assistance which it does give :—it expends nothing in missions or schools, but it subsidizes missionaries with sums of from £50 to £100 a year, in addition to what they receive from the associations to which they belong—the object being to render them more subservient, and induce them to close their eyes on much that they see going on around them.

HOW THE COMPANY CHEATS THE NATIVES.

The Company’s mode of dealing with the native hunters can scarcely be characterised as honest. It always keeps the Indians in debt. All the articles furnished to them are charged at most extortionate rates. Lieut. Chappel estimates the profits of the Company in some instances as high as 2000 per cent, (*Voyage to Hudson’s Bay, London, 1817, p. 231.*) The Rev. C. G. Nicholay says that a fourpenny comb will barter for a bear’s skin worth £2, (*the Oregon Territory, London, 1846, p. 162.*) Dr. King says that a coarse knife, worth, all expenses included, no more than sixpence, is bartered for three marten skins, worth in London five guineas ; and that for the skin of the black sea otter, worth fifty guineas, the native obtains, in exchange only, goods to the value of two shillings, (*King’s Narrative, Vol. ii. p. 53.*)